Newspapers in 1900

The number of newspapers grew during the Penny Press era until, come 1900 the number of English speaking daily newspapers (not including weeklies and foreign language dailies) grew to about 1,967. When you consider that the number of English speaking daily newspapers today is closer to 1,900 that means they reached their peak in the early 1900s.

Review the growth of newspapers one more time:

First papers 1690

Pre-Revolution -- 35 (c. 1770) ....................... +35

Post-Revolution -- 55 (c. 1775) ......................+20

Pre-Penny Press -- 512 (c. 1820) ................. +457

Post Civil War -- 1,967 (c. 1900) ...............+1455

About 1900 a new era of journalism started forming. It is called "New Journalism."

Papers during this time grew because of greater wealth in the country, a larger and growing population and because of the improved literacy. Characteristics of papers during this time included:

* Low priced, aggressive, easy to read
* Not influenced by politicians or public opinion
* Crusaded actively
* Appealed to masses with better design and content

Questions

1. Have the number of newspapers in circulation increased or decreased since 1900?
2. What was the increase in number of newspapers in circulation from the Pre-Penny Press Era to the Post Civil War era?
3. What was the term used for journalism at the turn of the century?
4. Give 2 reasons why the number of newspapers in circulation grew around

1900.

1. Give 3 characteristics of newspapers at the turn of the century.
2. How much power does the news have today? Over you? Over politicians?